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82D CONGRESS, 2d Session } SENATE { REPORT No. 2054

CONSOLIDATION OF INSECT LABORATORIES

JULY 2 (legislative day, JUNE 27), 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. ELLENDER, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, submitted the following

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REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 7952]

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The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7952) to authorize the combination of the Truck Crop Insect Laboratory and the Citrus Insect Laboratory of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, located at Alhambra and Whittier, Calif., respectively, and to provide for new quarters, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass without amendment.

H. R. 7952 provides for the consolidation of two insect laboratories of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, which at present are located at Whittier, Calif. The consolidated laboratory would be located at Palm Street, Ball Road, and South Harbor Boulevard, Anaheim, Orange County, Calif. The bill was reported to the House June 27 by the Committee on Agriculture with a recommendation that it be enacted with amendments. The amendments proposed by the House Agriculture Committee were approved by the House and a copy of the House report (H. Rept. 2348), explaining the legislation, is attached hereto as a part of this report.

[H. Rept. No. 2348, 82d Cong., 1st sess.]

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7952) to authorize the combination of the Truck Crop Insect Laboratory and the Citrus Insect Laboratory of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, located at Alhambra and Whittier, Calif., respectively, and to provide for new quarters, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

Page 2, line 2, after the word "purpose", insert "upon terms satisfactory to the Secretary and without cost to the Federal Government".

Page 2, after line 3, insert the following new section:

"SEC. 2. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated not to exceed $150,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act."

STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is to provide for the consolidation of the Truck Crop Insect Laboratory formerly located at Ventura and Alhambra and now temporarily located at Whittier, Calif., together with the Citrus Insect Laboratory of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, also at the present time located at Whittier, Calif.

The two laboratories referred to in the bill are now housed under lease on property owned by Whittier College at an annual rental of $1,500. The existing lease is renewable until June of 1955. The original rental on these various laboratories was in the total sum of $2,790 per annum.

There is urgent need for the consolidation of the two laboratories at some point in California which is strategically located close to important truck crop and citrus growing areas. The location referred to in H. R. 7952, described as Palm Street and South Harbor Boulevard, at Anaheim in Orange County, Calif., has been selected as a very desirable location. Both citrus groves and truck crop growing areas are closed at hand. It is located in an agricultural area at some distance from any immediate possible urban expansion. It has the further advantage of being located well outside a metropolitan area.

The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, assisted by State and local agencies concerned with such agricultural crops, has during the past 2 years unsuccessfully attempted to find adequate existing space for rental to house the two laboratories. Unsuccessful efforts have also been made to find some individual or agency who would erect a building and make it available on a long-time lease basis, subject to applicable Government regulations.

In recognition of the space problem, the Board of Supervisors of Orange County, Calif., on March 6, 1951, made an official offer in the form of a resolution to the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine of the land referred to in H. R. 7952 and described above, for the purpose of constructing a building to house such research laboratories of the Bureau.

It is quite clear from the evidence at hand, that the proposed building will provide suitable quarters for these two laboratories with appreciable savings in rent, laboratory equipment, and clerical help. In addition, it will have the advantage of bringing research workers of the Bureau together for more efficient supervision and direction.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee made two amendments to the bill. The first, in section 1, makes it clear that the location to be provided by Orange County is to be adequate for all purposes of the consolidated laboratory and is to be obtained by the Federal Government without cost.

The second amendment consists in the addition of a second section to the bill authorizing an appropriation for the consolidation and construction of the laboratory facilities. This will remove any doubt that the funds for the laboratory are to come out of new appropriations, and not out of existing departmental funds.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

Approval of H. R. 7952 is recommended by the Department of Agriculture in the following letter, which is hereby made a part of this report.

JUNE 25, 1952.

Hon. HAROLD D. COOLEY,
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. COOLEY: In reply to your request of June 17, 1952, the following report is submitted on H. R. 7952, to authorize the combination of the Truck Crop Insect Laboratory and the Citrus Insect Laboratory of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, located at Alhambra and Whittier, Calif., respectively, and to provide for new quarters.

The two laboratories referred to in the bill are now housed under lease on property owned by Whittier College at an annual rental rate of $1,500. The existing lease is renewable until June 1955.

There is urgent need for consolidation of the two laboratories at some point in California such as Anaheim, which is strategically located close to important truck-crop and citrus-growing areas.

The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, assisted by State and local agencies concerned with such agricultural crops, has during the past 2 years unsuccessfully attempted to locate adequate existing space for rental to house the two laboratories. Unsuccessful efforts have also been made to find some individual or agency who would erect a building and make it available on a long-time lease basis, subject to applicable Government regulations.

In recognition of the space problem, the Board of Supervisors of Orange County, Calif., on March 6, 1951, made an official offer to the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine of the land referred to in H. R. 7952 for the purpose of constructing a building to house such research laboratories of that Bureau. This offer has not been accepted as of this time because the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine does not have authority or funds to erect a building. The Bureau is still pursuing its efforts to find adequate existing space or to obtain the cooperation of local interests in the erection of a suitable building in Anaheim or some other location.

While the Department is favorable to the objectives of the bill, there is a possibility that, as now worded, it might require the construction of a building to house the two laboratories with funds which were not appropriated for that purpose. The use of present funds for construction of such a building would necessitate drastic curtailment of important research and result in loss in investment already made in the work. In order to clarify the matter, we recommend the following amendments to the bill:

Page 1, line 3, strike out the words "and directed".

Page 2, after line 3, insert: "SEC. 2. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act."

With these amendments the Department recommends passage of the bill.

In view of the time limitation, we have not obtained from the Bureau of the Budget advice as to the relationship of this proposed legislation to the program of the President.

Sincerely,

CHARLES F. BRANNAN, *Secretary*.

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